

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for providing improved print quality regardless of media
2 smoothness, comprising:
3 ascertaining information regarding the smoothness of media; and
4 utilizing the information about the media smoothness in the generation of an
5 output.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the utilizing further comprises using a
2 halftoning screen related to the information about the media smoothness.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the ascertaining further comprises
2 identifying a smoothness level for the media.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the identifying further comprises
2 manually providing the smoothness level to a print device.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the utilizing further comprises using a
2 halftoning screen related to the information about the media smoothness.
- 1 6. The method of claim 4 wherein the print device is a printer.
- 1 7. The method of claim 4 wherein the print device is a digital copier.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the utilizing further comprises using a
2 halftoning screen related to the information about the media smoothness.

1 11. The method of claim 1 further comprising communicating to a host
2 when media having a smoothness required according to the information is not
3 available in the print device.

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Patent Application

1 13. A print device, comprising:
2 a marker system for rendering a page layout on a medium; and
3 a smoothness processing system, coupled to the marker system, the
4 smoothness processing system ascertaining information regarding the smoothness
5 of media and controlling the marker system in response to the ascertained
6 information about the media smoothness.

1 14. The print device of claim 13 wherein the smoothness processing
2 system comprises a user input interface for manually entering a media smoothness
3 indicator.

1 15. The print device of claim 14 wherein the smoothness processing
2 system further comprises a processor, the processor receiving the media
3 smoothness indicator and selecting a halftoning screen according to the media
4 smoothness indicator.

1 16. The print device of claim 15 wherein the selected halftoning screen
2 controls the marker system to provide an optimal print quality for the page layout on
3 the medium.

1 17. The print device of claim 13 wherein the smoothness processing
2 system further comprises:
3 a light source for projecting light onto a medium;
4 a light converter for gathering light reflected off of the medium in proportion to
5 the smoothness of the medium and in response generating a signal proportional to
6 the smoothness of the medium; and
7 a processor, coupled to the light converter, for processing the signal proportional to
8 the smoothness of the medium to generate a control signal and selecting a
9 halftoning screen according to the media smoothness indicated by the control signal.

1 18. The print device of claim 17 wherein the light converter comprises a
2 fresnel lens and a charge coupled device.

1 19. The print device of claim 13 wherein the marker further includes a
2 finisher, the finisher using the information regarding the smoothness of media to
3 apply an appropriate halftoning screen for use with the media having the indicated
4 smoothness.

1 20. The print device of claim 13 wherein the smoothness processing
2 system receives information regarding the smoothness of the media that is
3 associated with and stored with a print job.

1 21. The print device of claim 13 further comprising a bi-directional print
2 stream, the print device communicating to a host through the bi-directional print
3 stream when media having a smoothness required according to the information is
4 not available in the print device.

1 22. The print device of claim 13 further comprising issuing an alert for
2 indicating that media having smoothness required according to the information is
3 unavailable.

1 23. An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium
2 readable by a computer, the medium tangibly embodying one or more programs of
3 instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for providing improved
4 print quality regardless of media smoothness, the method comprising:
5 ascertaining information regarding the smoothness of media; and
6 utilizing the information about the media smoothness in the generation of an
7 output.

1 24. The article of manufacture of claim 23 wherein the utilizing further
2 comprises using a halftoning screen related to the information about the media
3 smoothness.

1 25. The article of manufacture of claim 23 wherein the ascertaining further
2 comprises identifying a smoothness level for the media.

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1 26. The article of manufacture of claim 25 wherein the identifying further
2 comprises manually providing the smoothness level to a print device.

1 27. The article of manufacture of claim 26 wherein the utilizing further
2 comprises using a halftoning screen related to the information about the media
3 smoothness.

1 28. The article of manufacture of claim 25 wherein the identifying further
2 comprises projecting light on media to be printed on, gathering reflected light from
3 the media, generating a signal indicating a smoothness level for the media and
4 processing the signal indicating the smoothness level for the media to quantify the
5 media smoothness.

1 29. The article of manufacture of claim 28 wherein the utilizing further
2 comprises using a halftoning screen related to the information about the media
3 smoothness.

1 30. The article of manufacture of claim 23 wherein the ascertaining further
2 comprises storing information with a print job, wherein the information comprises a
3 smoothness parameter associated with the print job.

1 31. The article of manufacture of claim 23 further comprising
2 communicating to a host when media having a smoothness required according to
3 the information is not available in the print device.

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